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Superintending Engineers the advisability of using them. The Chief Engineer has inspected Railway works on which they have been used with conspicuous success and has ascertained that they have been adopted widely by firms in Southern India.

Alleged discharge of sullage and sewage from the General Hospital and the Penitentiary into the Buckingham canal and the Cooum river.

*863 Q.—Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Development, the hon. the Minister for Public Health and the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the sullage and the sewage from the General Hospital and the Penitentiary compounds are discharged into the Buckingham canal and the river Cooum ;

(b) if so, who is responsible for such action ;

(c) what action the Government propose to take on the recommendations of the Madras City High Mortality Committee on the above subjects ; and

(d) the present stage of the proposals made for the improvements to the Cooum to make it a tidal river and to make it navigable ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The responsibility must be shared by the Government and the Corporation.

(c) Schemes for the drainage of the General Hospital and the Penitentiary are being prepared by the Sanitary Engineer.

(d) The latest proposal, which has been accepted by the Government and is being laid before the Finance Committee, is to pump water from the sea into the Cooum near the Medical College to enable the bar to be burst when necessary.

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" May I know, Sir, with reference to the answer to clause (d), when the so-called latest proposal will be given effect to ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" I shall await the findings of the Finance Committee. "

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" Findings of the Committee on what ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" The latest proposal is being laid before the Finance Committee and I shall wait to see what the Finance Committee has to say."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" Is the Finance Committee being consulted in regard to the technical aspect of the matter ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" No, Sir. Whatever they have got to say, I should like to know it

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" Is it only in regard to the provision of adequate money for the purpose ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" The hon. Member asked for the time within which the proposal will be given effect to. I said I am waiting for the recommendations of the Finance Committee.

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Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar :—"Does he say that it will take effect within the term of the hon. Minister's office ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"I do not know, Sir, it is rather difficult to say." (Laughter.)

Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed :—"May I know, Sir, on what ground the responsibility must be shared by the Government and the Corporation ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"I understand, Sir, because the Corporation has not made the arrangements it should."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—"May I know, Sir, if the Engineers of the Corporation have been consulted in regard to this matter ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"Yes."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—"Who are they ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"The Chief Engineer"

Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed :—"May I know whether the Corporation owns any portion of the General Hospital or the Penitentiary ?"

The hon. the President :—"The question does not arise."

Co-operative Societies

Registration of Co-operative Societies, etc.

*864 *Q.*—Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies takes nearly six months to register a society and to pass necessary amendments to by-laws ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies only transmits the papers regarding thr amendments to by-laws and registration of societies, to the Deputy Registrar, and if so, whether such an agency is necessary at all ;

(*c*) whether the Government will consider the advisability of authorizing the Assistant Registrar himself to register societies and pass amendments to by-laws ; and

(*d*) if the answer to (*c*) is in the negative, whether the Government will authorize certain members of the District Co-operative Federation, wherever the Federation is working, to register societies and pass amendments to by-laws ?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) Yes, with his remarks ; the agency is necessary.

(*c*) & (*d*) Not in the present state of the movement.

Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar :—"May I know from the hon. the Minister for Development whether the information could not have been called for considering the fact that the question has been asked nearly a month ago and at least will the Government call for the information now ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"No, it would serve no useful purpose. If any specific instance is cited, certainly I shall go into it."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—"Is the hon. Minister aware that the delay in certain cases is not only a period of six months but two years ?"